

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 11, 13, 15, 26-28, and 30 are pending, with claims 1-3 and 11 being independent. Claims 10, 12, 14, 16-21, 23-25, 29, and 31-35 stand withdrawn.

Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 11, 13, 15, and 30.

Claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ha (U.S. Patent No. 5,767,530). Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 26, and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Yamazaki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,369,410). Applicants have amended the claims to obviate the rejections.

As amended, claim 1 recites electronic equipment that includes, among other features, a first gate electrode having a first conductive film formed over a gate insulating film, a second gate electrode having a second conductive film formed over the first gate electrode, where an LDD region of a semiconductor layer entirely overlaps with the first conductive film with the gate insulating film interposed therebetween. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection because Ha and Yamazaki do not describe or suggest that the LDD region entirely overlaps with the first conductive film included in the first gate electrode with the gate insulating film interposed therebetween.

Rather, Ha describes LDD regions 32a and a first gate electrode 34, where the LDD regions 32a do not entirely overlap the first gate electrode 34. The Office Action contends that oxide layers 36a and 36b are part of the first gate electrode 34. However, the oxide layers 36a and 36b are not part of the first gate electrode 34. The oxide layers are separate elements from the first gate electrode. "Oxide layers 36a and 36b are provided on opposite sides of first gate layer 34 on gate electrode insulating layer 33." See Ha, Fig. 4G and col. 4, lines 51-55. Since the oxide layers 36a and 36b are not part of the first gate electrode 34, the LDD regions 32a do not entirely overlap the first gate electrode 34.

Moreover, Ha does not describe or suggest a first gate electrode that includes a first conductive film, where the LDD region entirely overlaps with the first conductive film with the gate insulating film interposed therebetween.

Similarly to Ha, Yamazaki also does not describe or suggest these features recited in amended claim 1. Instead, Yamazaki describes an LDD region 108 and a first gate electrode 110, where the LDD region does not entirely overlap the first gate electrode 110. The Office Action contends that anodic oxide layer 112 is part of the first gate electrode 110. However, the

anodic oxide layer 112 is not part of the first gate electrode 110. The anodic oxide layer 112 is a separate element from the first gate electrode 110. See Yamazaki, Fig. 1B and col. 15, lines 14-20. Since the anodic oxide layer 112 is not part of the first gate electrode 110, the LDD region 108 does not entirely overlap the first gate electrode.

Moreover, Yamazaki also does not describe or suggest a first gate electrode that includes a first conductive film, where the LDD region entirely overlaps with the first conductive film with the gate insulating film interposed therebetween.

For at least these reasons, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of amended independent claim 1 and its dependent claims 4, 7, and 26.

Similarly to amended claim 1, amended claim 2 recites electronic equipment that includes, among other features, a first gate electrode that includes a first conductive film, where the LDD region entirely overlaps with the first conductive film with the gate insulating film interposed therebetween. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of amended independent claim 2 and its dependent claims 5, 8, and 27, for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Claims 3, 6, and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishimura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,462,802) in view of Ha. Applicants have amended the claims to obviate the rejection.

As amended, claim 3 recites electronic equipment that includes, among other features, a first gate electrode that includes a first conductive film, where the LDD region entirely overlaps with the first conductive film with the gate insulating film interposed therebetween. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection because Nishimura and Ha, either alone or in combination, do not describe or suggest these features.

As acknowledged in the Office Action, Nishimura is not relied upon to support the rejection of these features. Ha does not remedy this failure of Nishimura to describe or suggest these features because Ha only shows LDD regions 32a and a first gate electrode 34, where the LDD regions 32a do not entirely overlap the first gate electrode 34, as discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of amended independent claim 3 and its dependent claims 6 and 28.

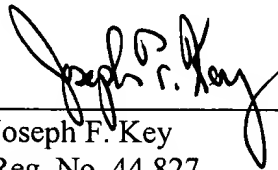
Claims 7, 8, 26, and 27, which depend from claims 1 and 2, stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ha in view of JP 6-148685 (JP '685). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection at least because JP '685 does not remedy the failure of Ha to describe or suggest a first gate electrode that includes a first conductive film, where the LDD region entirely overlaps with the first conductive film with the gate insulating film interposed therebetween, as recited in independent claims 1 and 2, from which claims 7, 8, 26, and 27 depend.

Claim 9, which depends from claim 3, stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishimura in view of Ha and JP '685. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection because JP '685 does not remedy the failure of Nishimura and Ha to describe or suggest a first gate electrode that includes a first conductive film, where the LDD region entirely overlaps with the first conductive film with the gate insulating film interposed therebetween, as recited in independent claim 3, from which claim 9 depends.

Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance.

Please apply any deficiencies or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,



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